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AP® CollegeBoard

AP® Music Theory

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Free Response Question S2

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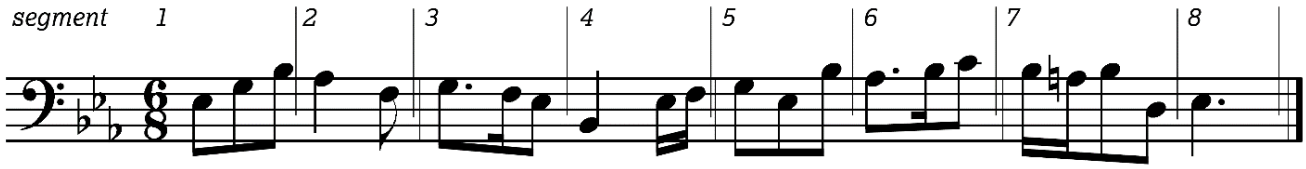
Sight Singing Question 2 — 9 points

General Instructions

Use EITHER the regular scoring guide OR an alternate scoring guide, whichever gives the higher score.



I. Regular Scoring Guide

A. Score 1 point for each segment (i.e., each half-measure) correct in pitch, rhythm, and tempo. **1 point each (max 8)**

B. If at least one segment is correct using **I.A.**, add 1 point for a complete response that has no hesitations or restarts (= overall flow; the "flow" point). **1 point**

C. Record any score of 4 or higher.

D. If the score is less than 4, try an alternate scoring guide.

II. Alternate Scoring Guides (Do not award the "flow" point in the alternate scoring guide.)

A. If a student sings many of the pitches correctly but is consistently inaccurate in rhythm, you may determine holistically to award up to 4 points for pitch. **Max 4**

OR

B. If a student is accurate or nearly accurate with respect to rhythm but is consistently inaccurate in pitches, you may determine holistically to award up to 2 points for rhythm. **Max 2**

III. Scores with Additional Meaning

1 This score may be given to a response that has two or more redeeming qualities (e.g., retention of the tonic pitch and singing the melody with a correct contour; persistence alone is *not* a redeeming quality).

0 This score is used for a response that has no redeeming qualities (or only one) or a response that is off-topic or irrelevant.

NR This score (no response) is used for blank responses (including spoken AP number but no response).

IV. Scoring Notes

A. If a student restarts, score the last *complete* response, but do *not* award the "flow" point.

B. Score from the tonic established by the student. However, credit any exactly transposed segment approached by the correct interval. In other words, *any segment entered correctly (by the correct interval) is eligible for the point*.

C. The last note may be eligible for the point if the student returns to the original tonic, even if the preceding segments have been transposed, and the original tonic is not approached correctly.

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D. If the student changes tempo and continues in the new tempo, do not credit the segment where the change occurs, but credit the ensuing segments.

E. The last note must be held at least to the attack of the final eighth note of measure four for that segment to receive credit.

F. Ignore any use (correct or incorrect) of syllables, letter names, or numbers, as well as expletives, giggles, and the like.

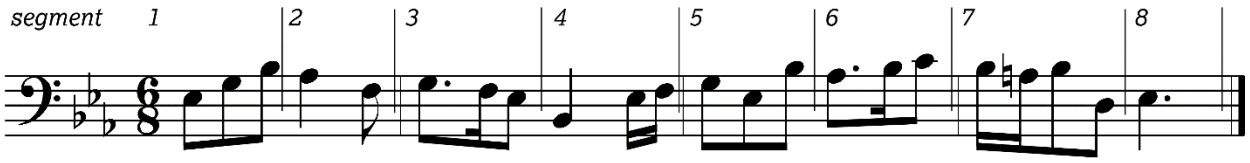
G. If you try both regular and alternate guides, record the higher of the scores.

H. Scores from one guide may *not* be combined with those of another.

I. Listen beyond the end of the performance to ensure that the student made no additional response.

Total for question S2 (Regular Scoring Guide) **9 points**

Record points for correct segments and flow in the boxes below. Use either the regular scoring guide or one of the alternate scoring guides.



									Flow point
Regular Scoring									
Alternate: Pitch									Max 4
Alternate: Rhythm									Max 2

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Question S2

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

This question assessed students' ability to:

- sight read and sing a melody in major mode;
- sing in compound duple meter;
- perform common rhythmic patterns;
- perform dotted rhythms;
- sing skips and stepwise motion in both ascending and descending directions;
- sing a melody with a vocal range of a ninth;
- perform chordal skips within the tonic and dominant triads;
- sing a chromatic lower neighbor tone;
- establish and maintain a steady tempo;
- establish and retain a sense of tonic; and
- read in bass clef.

Sample: S2A
Score: 9

This represents an excellent response. All eight segments of the melody were sung with correct pitch and rhythm; 1 point was awarded for each segment. Because the response has no hesitations, the flow point was awarded, which resulted in a score of 9. Scoring by segments was: 1111 1111 +1 = 9.

Sample: S2B
Score: 5

This represents a fair response. The response is correct in segment one. The response in segment two has incorrect rhythm and earned 0 points. Segments three, four, and five are correct in both rhythm and pitch and earned 3 points. Segments six, seven, and eight are sung with incorrect pitches. The response is performed without hesitation and therefore the flow point was awarded, which resulted in a score of 5. Scoring by segments was: 1011 1000 +1 = 5.

Sample: S2C
Score: 2

This represents a poor response. There are no segments that are sung correctly in both rhythm and pitch; therefore, the Alternate Scoring Guide for Rhythm is used. Holistically, over half of the rhythms are correct and 2 points were awarded. Scoring by segments was: 0000 0000 +0 = 0
Alternate Scoring Guide (II.B) = 2.

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